

We claim:

1. A modified chimeric receptor comprising a chimeric receptor having a dileucine motif in its intracellular portion, wherein said modified chimeric receptor has a disruption in said dileucine motif.
2. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1, wherein said dileucine motif has a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID No. 1 to SEQ ID No. 14.
3. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1 wherein said dileucine motif is derived from a CD28 protein.
4. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 3 wherein said CD28 protein is a human CD28 protein and wherein said dileucine motif has the sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 9.
5. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 3 wherein said CD28 protein is a murine CD28 protein and wherein said dileucine motif has the sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 8.
6. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1 wherein said modified chimeric receptor is a T-cell receptor.
7. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1 wherein said disruption comprises an addition of at least one amino acid within said dileucine motif.
8. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1 wherein said disruption comprises a deletion of at least one amino acid within said dileucine motif.
9. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1 wherein said disruption comprises a substitution of at least one amino acid within said dileucine motif.
10. The modified chimeric receptor of claim 1 wherein said disruption comprises a substitution of at least one leucine within said dileucine motif.
11. A method for increasing the capacity of a chimeric receptor having a dileucine motif in its intracellular portion to accumulate on a cell comprising disrupting said dileucine motif.
12. A CD28 protein or portion thereof having a dileucine motif, wherein said CD28 protein has a disruption in said dileucine motif.
13. The CD28 protein or portion thereof of claim 12 wherein said CD28 protein is a murine protein.

14. The CD28 protein or portion thereof of claim 13 wherein said dileucine motif has the sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 8.
15. The CD28 protein or portion thereof of claim 12 wherein said CD28 protein is a human protein.
- 5 16. The CD28 protein or portion thereof of claim 15 wherein said dileucine motif has the sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 9.
17. A cell having on its membrane at least one modified chimeric receptor comprising a chimeric receptor having a dileucine motif in its intracellular portion, wherein said modified chimeric receptor has a disruption in said dileucine motif.
- 10 18. The cell according to claim 17, wherein said cell is a T-cell.
19. The cell according to claim 18, wherein said modified chimeric receptor is a T-cell receptor.